

## Message Text

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41

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 FMC-04 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10

L-03 H-03 PRS-01 PA-03 USIE-00 INRE-00 DOTE-00 SY-10

SSO-00 RSR-01 NSCE-00 /101 W

----- 011394

O 211518Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1322

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 9957

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN OVIP UR

SUBJ: SHIPPING TALKS: VISIT OF FMC CHAIRMAN BENTLEY

REF: A) STATE 164935; B) MOSCOW 9802

1. EMBOFF MET WITH MINISTRY OF MARITIME FLEET (MMF) OFFICIALS AUG 21 TO DISCUSS POINTS RAISED IN REFTEL. CONCERNING "PROTOCOL," OFFICIALS RELUCTANTLY AGREED THAT TALKS WILL BE COMPLETELY INFORMAL, WITH NO PROTOCOL OR OTHER OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS SIGNED OR EXCHANGED AT CONCLUSION.

2. REGARDING IN-COUNGRY TRAVEL, MMF PEOPLE WILL BE OFFENDED IF BILLSHAVE TO BE SENT TO EMBASSY FOR PAYMENT, AS THEY FEEL THIS WOULD VIOLATE THEIR STATUS OF HOSTS FOR DELEGATION. THEREFORE, EMBASSY STRONGLY URGES GROUP TO PURCHASE OPEN AIR-LINE TICKETS BEFORE DEPARTURE TO COVER TRAVEL MOSCOW-ODESSA- LENINGRAD-MOSCOW. RESERVATIONS ON ACTUAL FLIGHT WILL BE MADE BY MMF HERE WHEN FINAL SCHEDULE FIRMED UP. AUTOMOBILES IN ALL CITIES WILL BE THOSE OPERATED BY MMF OR VARIOUS SHIPPING COMPANIES, AND NOT RENTAL CARS. HOTEL RESERVATIONS THROUGHOUT VISIT WILL BE MADE BY MMF, AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF GROUP WILL PAY THEIR BILLS UPON CHECK-OUT FROM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOTELS.

3. MMF IS AGREEABLE TO SCHEDULING ALL THREE DAYS OF DISCUSSION AND TRIP TO ZAGORSK AT BEGINNING OF VISIT (I.E., AUGUST 27-30), WITH DEPARTURE FOR ODESSA EVENING OF AUG. 30 OR MORNING OF AUG. 31. HOWEVER, AS DEPT AND FMC AWARE, COMMERCE ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLACKWELL IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE MOSCOW MORNING OF AUG 29 FOR SEVERAL DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS. AT LEAST THREE SOVIET MARITIME OFFICIALS (AVERIN, MASLOV, AND FAKTOROVICH) WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND BOTH SETS OF MEETINGS, WHICH WOULD BE MOST DIFFICULT IF THEY OVERLAP BY TWO DAYS (AUG 29 AND 30). MMF THEREFORE RECOMMENDS THAT SCHEDULE SET OUT IN REFTEL B BE RETAINED.

4. WITH REGARD TO DEPARTURE OF BENTLEY GROUP, ONLY FLIGHT DEPARTING LENINGRAD SEPT 4 IS SU 631 TO HELSINKI. THEREFORE, PRESUME DELEGATION WILL RETURN TO MOSCOW THAT DAY (OR BY OVERNIGHT TRAIN) AND DEPART COUNTRY FROM HERE. IN THAT REGARD, MMF URGENTLY NEEDS TO KNOW DEPARTURE PLANS FOR VARIOUS MEMBERS OF GROUP SO THAT IN-COUNTRY TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE FIRMED UP. (FYI SOVIET TRANSPORTATION NETWORK WILL BE OVERTAXED DURING THIS PERIOD AS VACATIONERS RETURN HOME FOR BEGINNING OF SCHOOL YEAR. END FYI)

5. FMC AND DEPT COMMENTS ON ABOVE QUESTIONS SOLICITED BY RETURN IMMEDIATE CABLE IN ORDER TO FINALIZE PROGRAM FOR VISIT.

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